

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 14497 070830Z

14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06

TAR-02 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 L-03 OIC-04 SS-20

NSC-10 DRC-01 /123 W

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R 070759Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7981

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR USDEL TO CONFERENCE ON LINER CODE

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRN JA

SUBJ: SHIPPING: LEGISLATION ON PROTECTION OF SHIPPING

REF: STATE 218925

SUMMARY: RE PARA 3 REFTEL, JAPAN SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION (JSA) HAS ASKED TRANSPORT MINISTRY (MOT) TO DEVELOP LEGISLATION DESIGNED GIVE GOJ AURHORITY TO ACT AGAINST COUNTRIES WHOSE DISCRIMINATORY SHIPPING POLICIES ADVERSELY AFFECT JAPANESE INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED FOREGING ISSUE ON NOV 5 (PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL) WITH NAOMASA SAKUMA, ASST MANAGER, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIV, JSA. (SAKUMA WILL BE MEMBER OF JAPANESE DEL TO CONFERENCE

ON LINER CODE.) SAKUMA SAID JAPANESE TARIFF LAW PROVIDES FOR IMPOSITION OF RETALIATORY DUTY ON GOODS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHICH DISCRIMINATE AGAINST JAPANESE VESSELS, BUT JSA DOES NOT CONSIDER THIS TO BE EFFECTIVE MEASURE FOR DETERRING DISCRIMINATION. CONSEQUENTLY, JSA HAS ASKED MOT TO DRAFT, AND SUBMIT
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 14497 070830Z

TO DIET, LAW WHICH WOULD GIVE GOJ EFFECTIVE RETALIATORY POWERS.

2. IN ITS REQUEST TO MOT, JSA DID NOT SUGGEST SPECIFIC MEASURES, BUT SAKUMA SAID STRONG LAW NEEDED, SUCH AS AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT VESSELS OF OFFENDING COUNTRY FROM CALLING AT JAPANESE PORTS. SAKUMA INDICATED GOJ WOULD NEED STRONG-LAW FOR USE AS BARGAINING COUNTER IN CASE PROPOSED LINER CONFERENCE CODE RESULTS IN MULTILATERAL ACCEPTANCE OF A CARGO SHARING FORMULA (E.G. 40-40-20 PRINCIPLE) AS CONCESSION TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. JSA APPARENTLY FEARS THAT UNLESS JAPAN'S SHIPPING PROTECTION LEGISLATION IS STRENGTHENED, GOJ WILL NOT HAVE EQUAL BARGAINING POWER WITH EUROPEANS IN NEGOTIATING WITH LDC'S ON SHARES OF CARGO RESERVED FOR THIRD COUNTRY CARRIERS.

3. ACCORDING TO INUI (CHIEF OF MOT SHIPPING BUREAU'S OVERSEAS DIV), MOT WILL HAVE TO CONSULT WITH OTHER INTERESTED MINISTRIES BEFORE SUBMITTING SHIPPING PROTECTION BILL TO DIET. IT THEREFORE NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS POINT TO ESTIMATE WHEN, OR IF, LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED.

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Message Attributes

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